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AIDS TO COMMUNION WITH GOD:

A Manual for Communicants.

EDITED BY

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COMMUNION WITH GOD.

PART I.

INSTRUCTION.

WHEN man was first made he was made that he might love God and adore Him for ever. We all know how the first man disobeyed God, and thus brought sin into the world. By this disobedience a separation was caused between God and the man whom He had created, just as a rebellious son causes a separation between himself and the father whom he has insulted. Man could no longer hold that communion or fellowship with God which he enjoyed in his innocent state. If it had not been for the great love of God this separation must have lasted for ever, but He so loved the world that He sent His only SON to become Man Himself, and so to restore communion between God and man. But this communion could not be restored until God the SON, Who had been made

Man, offered Himself as a sacrifice to His FATHER for the sins of all mankind. This He did by living a life of perfect holiness and by being obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. We thus learn, that if we wish to hold communion with God (and our souls can have no life without communion with Him) we can only draw near to Him through that union between God and man which has been formed by God and man being united in one Person, JESUS CHRIST, and through the sacrifice which this GOD-MAN offered as the Head and Representative of the whole human race. It is for this reason that we never approach God in prayer without pleading that we do so ‘through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.’ We are bidden to pray ‘in the name of CHRIST,’ that is, as being one with CHRIST the great Head of our race.

There are many ways of holding communion with God ; but there is one especial method which it has pleased our SAVIOUR to appoint in His Church, for the use of His people, by which they may be brought into union with His human nature, and with the sacrifice which He offered in that human nature ; and being thus joined to Him they may draw near, with Him, to their FATHER’s throne. On the night before the Crucifixion JESUS delivered to His Apostles an ordinance or Sacrament to be the outward

method by which the benefits which flow from the union which is made by Him between God and man may be conveyed to human souls. This Sacrament is called the Holy Communion, because it is the especially appointed means by which we can hold communion and fellowship with God through our LORD JESUS CHRIST. In man's first state of innocence it pleased God to appoint an outward means by which He was to be approached, this was the Tree of Life : in like manner this Holy Communion is given to us as our Tree of Life ; not because it has *in itself* the power of giving life, but because it is the outward means by which we are made one with JESUS CHRIST, our Head, Who is the Life of the world. This Holy Sacrament has not been taken away from us, as the Tree of Life was from Adam, but has remained to be the joy and strength of God's people from the day on which it was first given until now.

The account of the first institution of the Holy Communion is given in four different places in the New Testament : St. Matt. xxvi. 26-28 ; St. Mark, xiv. 22-24 ; St. Luke, xxii. 19, 20 ; 1 Cor.xi. 23-25. From these we learn that Jesus, having eaten His last Passover with His disciples, institutes for them a new and better feast. He takes bread, and blesses it and breaks it, and says, 'This is My Body which is given

for you ;' and He takes the cup, which He blesses in like manner, saying, 'This is My Blood of the New Testament,' or, as the other accounts say, 'This cup is the New Testament in My Blood.' St. Paul also, writing about the Holy Sacrament, tells us that 'The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the Blood of CHRIST, the bread which we break is the communion of the Body of CHRIST.' These are words of deep meaning, and we must accept them with the most intense reverence. *How* this Sacrament is the Communion of the Body and Blood of CHRIST to us we cannot tell. Why should we seek to inquire too narrowly into the mysteries of God ? 'Now we know in part.' It is enough to know, that if we faithfully receive this Holy Sacrament our souls are really and truly partakers of the Body and Blood of CHRIST ; that is, of the true Human nature which He took, that He might sanctify it and offer it for our sake.

One thing we may understand about this Holy Sacrament : That when we are taking part in this sacred mystery we are appearing before our Heavenly FATHER, under the shelter, as it were, of the Sacrifice which the Head of our Human Race, JESUS CHRIST, God and man, has offered for our sins, which He is ever presenting before His FATHER's throne, and which is ever accept-

able in the FATHER's sight. And by eating of that Bread and drinking of that Cup we are uniting ourselves to His Sacrifice, just as the Israelites, by feeding upon the Paschal Lamb which was offered in the Passover, entered into the covenant by which GOD delivered them out of the house of bondage. As we draw near to partake spiritually of the Body and Blood of the True LAMB of GOD, we are so made one with Him, and He with us, that His Sacrifice becomes ours; so that we, too, are restored to communion with the FATHER, and we, too, are accepted in the BELOVED; and we go rejoicing on our way, strengthened by that Communion which has brought us face to face with GOD.

But it must not be forgotten that the outward receiving of this Holy Sacrament cannot bring us into communion with God unless our hearts are seeking Him also. Communion with God is an act of the soul, and while the outward act of receiving the Sacrament is necessary to complete this communion (just as the outward acts of our bodies are necessary to carry out the inner wishes of our minds), yet it is of no benefit unless it really represents the inward action of the soul. It is necessary, therefore, for those who receive this Holy Communion to examine themselves, so that they may find out whether their hearts are really desiring to hold com-

munion with God, or whether they are merely receiving the Sacrament as an outward form.

Our LORD JESUS prepared the hearts of His disciples for their First Communion by speaking to them the wonderful discourse which we find in St. John's Gospel, chapters xiii. to xvi. At the beginning of this discourse He condescended to perform the lowly duty of washing their feet. This action was a parable, by which they were to learn that, unless they were cleansed by Him, they could not hold communion with Him. 'If I wash thee not thou hast no part with Me.'

The first thing required, therefore, of those who would partake of the Holy Communion is, that they should have been cleansed from their sins by JESUS CHRIST. In our baptism we were admitted to this cleansing, for it is the right of every one born into the world. 'God hath showed us that we should not call any man common or unclean' (Acts, x. 28). But we have all fallen into sin since our baptism, and we need that cleansing to be given to us afresh. And this cleansing is not denied to any one who seeks for it. Those who need it must have, first of all, faith in JESUS CHRIST as their Saviour, through Whom there is forgiveness for all their sins and healing for all their infirmities. Faith is the victory by which we overcome :

until we are able to say, ‘JESUS is my Saviour, through Him my sins can be forgiven, through Him I can have communion with God,’ we ought not to draw near to this Holy Sacrament. Faith will lead us on to the next step, Repentance. Faith will open our eyes to recognise how far we have grieved our FATHER by our sins; it will kindle in us love towards Him, and will make these sins hateful in our sight. It is sin that has cut us off from communion with God; and the old sins must be laid down at the Cross of JESUS, so that we may go with Him into the FATHER’s presence. If we are in doubt as to the forgiveness of our sins we cannot do better than speak to some clergyman about our doubts, for he is the minister of God to instruct us in the way of repentance and to bring home the assurance of forgiveness to the penitent soul.

It must also be remembered that we cannot have communion with God unless we are living in communion and fellowship with our fellow-men. ‘He that loveth not his brother, whom he hath seen, how can he love God, Whom he hath not seen?’ (1 John, iv. 20.) It is necessary, therefore, for us to be in love and charity with all men before we can receive Holy Communion. Those who are intending to take part in this holy service should not do so until they have forgiven all who have injured them, and have

sought to make amends to those whom they have injured.

Lastly, there can be no entering into communion with God unless we are seeking to live according to His will. Mere feelings of religion are useless unless they are accompanied by a stedfast purpose to obey God in all things. 'Can two walk together except they be agreed?' (Amos, iii. 3.) As part of our preparation for Holy Communion we should pray for the aid of the HOLY SPIRIT of God, in order that we may know our own faults and weaknesses, and by His help may overcome them. We should also especially remember that in this Holy Sacrament we are uniting ourselves to the Sacrifice of Himself which JESUS CHRIST offered to the FATHER, and by doing so we are expressly saying that we are desirous of joining Him in that sacrifice by the surrender of ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto God. But we are not really offering ourselves unless we are submitting our wills to His will. Let us beware lest we are guilty of the sin of Judas, and kiss our LORD with our lips while our actions are betraying Him.

PART II.

PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION.

IT has been pointed out in the first part of this book that no one should seek to hold communion with God in the Holy Sacrament unless he is also seeking to hold communion with Him in his heart and life. It is necessary, therefore, that those who wish to come to Holy Communion should examine themselves, in order that they may learn whether they are truly seeking God or not. St. Paul says, ‘Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup’ (1 Cor. xi. 28).

It has also been shown that those who seek God in Holy Communion must have—

1. Faith in JESUS CHRIST as their Saviour, through Whom their sins are forgiven, and by Whom they may approach the FATHER.
2. Sorrow for the sins which have grieved JESUS, and a stedfast purpose to overcome them by the power of the HOLY SPIRIT, Who dwells in them.
3. A feeling of love and charity towards all men.

We approach God by uniting ourselves with JESUS CHRIST. We must therefore seek to be one in spirit with Him. Supposing that He was still living in our midst, and we were constantly in His company, what should we need in order that we might be one with Him? We should recognise in Him, (1,) an intense sorrow for sin ; (2,) a perfect resignation of His own will to the will of the FATHER ; (3,) a complete obedience to the law of God ; (4,) an unbounded love of all mankind. Although it is impossible for us ever in this life to imitate Him perfectly, yet we may learn from this what kind of a life we should be seeking after if we would be one with Him in spirit.

Those who have never yet received the Holy Communion, or who have not received it for a long time, or who have been in the habit of receiving it in a mere formal manner, and who feel that they are not properly prepared for it, are earnestly advised to speak to one of the clergy of their church, whose duty it is to guide them into the true way of obtaining peace through JESUS CHRIST. Until they have found this the Holy Communion can only bring condemnation instead of fellowship with God.

Even for those who know what it is to be living in reconciliation with their FATHER, earnest preparation is necessary before each communion.

It is possible to lose this state of grace ; faith may become shaken, carelessness and spiritual sloth may weigh down the soul, and sin may again regain the mastery. Let each one, therefore, resolve to examine into his own spiritual state before each approach to God's Holy Table, so that he may appear there as a worshipper in spirit and in truth.

These aids to a proper preparation for this Holy Sacrament are intended for those who have, either at their recent Confirmation or by listening to the call of God in some other way, sought and found the blessed gift of the forgiveness of sins, and who are now seeking to tread the narrow way that leadeth to everlasting life.

Firstly, it should be remembered that the soul needs *constant* communion with its FATHER ; without this, spiritual life will languish and die. Communion with God through CHRIST must be lasting and life-long. The Holy Sacrament should be the food of our souls to be constantly received, and the thought that we are reconciled to our Heavenly FATHER should be constantly within us. The presence of the redeemed in Heaven will be one unbroken act of communion with God through the LAMB that was slain. It is good, therefore, to form some rule as to the times for receiving Holy Communion, just as it is

necessary to have rules about the times of private prayer. All Christians may look forward to hold communion with God through the LORD's own appointed Sacrament on every LORD's Day. But it is better for beginners to come a little less frequently at first, for fear lest the constant approach might lead to carelessness and sloth in the preparation. Perhaps the best rule is to come once every month, and also on the great festivals of Christmas, Easter, Ascension, and Whitsun Day : after a time the monthly rule may be changed to a fortnightly one ; and as the life of the SPIRIT becomes more established, the soul may look forward to the great privilege of Weekly Communion.

Secondly, if the monthly rule is adopted, it is best to choose some fixed Sunday in the month which shall be the Communion Sunday ; say the first, second, third, or last, whichever may seem most convenient.

Thirdly, the week before the Communion Sunday should be used as a week of preparation. If it is intended to receive Holy Communion on some day (such as Christmas, Ascension, a Harvest Festival, a Birthday, New-year's Day) which does not fall on a Sunday, the preparation should begin a week beforehand.

The following is suggested as a

METHOD OF PREPARATION.

On the SUNDAY before you come to Holy Communion (or the day on which your preparation begins), when the time comes for your evening prayers call to remembrance that your preparation-week has begun. Think that you are again to be brought into near communion with your God through the Sacrifice of JESUS CHRIST, and that your soul must be in communion with Him also. *Prayer* must be your first means of obtaining this. The following prayers may be used :—

I do not presume to come to Thy Holy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Thy table, but Thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy. Grant me, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the Flesh of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, and to drink His Blood, that my sinful body may be made clean by His Body, and my soul washed through His most precious Blood, and that I may evermore dwell in Him and He in me. Amen.

Visit me, I beseech Thee, O Heavenly Father, by Thy Holy Spirit, that I may be cleansed from my sins and strengthened against temptation, so that I may be made one with my Lord and Saviour, and through His merits may be brought nearer to Thee; through the same Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

These prayers should also be said on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings.

Try and remember throughout the week, 'I am preparing for Communion with God.'

ON THURSDAY,

(OR THIRD DAY BEFORE COMMUNION,)

a more special preparation should be begun. The first point should be *Self-examination*.

In your evening prayers try to put yourself in the presence of God, and to remember that you are seeking to know yourself as He knows you. Begin with this prayer :—

O God, do Thou teach me by Thy Holy Spirit to know myself; show me how I have sinned against Thee; enlighten my dull conscience; and give me the grace of true sorrow for my sins; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then ask yourself whether, since your last communion, you have fallen away from faith in God's love through CHRIST. Put to yourself also these questions :—

Does conscience accuse me of having committed any special sins since my last communion ? What were they ? and have I sought forgiveness for them ?

Have I given way to the sins which I know are my chief faults, and which I am especially bound to conquer ? Have I striven against them as I ought to have done ?

Have I been guilty of any other sinful *actions* ; such as laziness in rising, in work, in prayer, in kindness towards others ; neglect of my religious duties ? Being spiteful, unkind, disobedient, quarrelsome, rude ; being greedy, impure, vain ; being dishonest, selfish ; have I led others into sin ?

Or have I sinned in *word* by speaking untruths, boasting, using bad language, being uncharitable, proud, angry, unforgiving, impatient, discontented, immodest, irreverent ?

Or have I sinned in *thought* by vanity, selfishness, envy, wandering in prayer, revengeful feelings, unbelief, impurity, despair, discontent ?

If your conscience accuses you of any sin, confess it humbly to your FATHER in heaven, and

seek to be forgiven through JESUS CHRIST. These prayers may be used :—

My God, I repent with my whole heart for having offended Thee, Who art infinitely good, loving, and gracious ; therefore, I will henceforth love and honour Thee above all things. Forgive, Almighty Lord, forgive, and have not my sins in remembrance. By the help of Thy grace I purpose never more to offend Thee ; but confessing my sins, I will confide in Thy infinite mercy, and in the sacred merits of the bitter Passion and Death of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, my divine Redeemer, that Thou wilt graciously forgive me. Amen.

O Lord Jesus, Saviour of the world, Who camest to seek and to save that which was lost, and Who didst call all those to come to Thee who are weary and heavy laden ; I, a sinner, come to Thee for forgiveness ; I have wandered from Thee like a lost sheep : but Thou art the Good Shepherd, Who didst lay down Thy life for Thy sheep ; bring me back again to Thy fold, and let me not any more go astray, lest I perish everlastingily. Lord, if Thou wilt Thou canst make me clean. Cleanse me by Thy Holy Body and Sacred Blood, and help me to serve and love Thee with my whole heart, and bring me at last to Thy heavenly kingdom, where Thou livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, One God, world without end. Amen.

If you find that you have fallen away to any serious extent since your last communion, it may be best for you to go to some clergyman and again seek from him advice and, if need be, absolution.

Remember also that if your conscience accuses you of being in a state of enmity or hatred towards any other person, you ought not to receive Holy Communion until you have done your best to become friends with him again. If the fault is on his side, forgive him from your heart; and even if he refuses to forgive you, your conscience may be at rest if you have done all you can to be reconciled to him. (St. Matt. v. 23.)

ON FRIDAY.

Make the chief point of your preparation the thought of the Sacrifice of CHRIST, and how you are allowed to draw near to GOD through that Sacrifice.

Read carefully some part of the Holy Scriptures which speaks of the suffering which JESUS endured for your sake. Take any one of the following portions, and, having read it, try to gather some lesson from it about His love to you, and how He longs to unite you to Himself, so that He may present you to His Father:—

Then say also this prayer :—

O Blessed Jesu, Who dost come to me, Thy unworthy servant, in the Blessed Sacrament of Thy Body and Blood, prepare my heart, I beseech Thee, for Thyself; Grant me that repentance for my past sins, that full faith in the Atonement made by Thee for them on the Cross, that full purpose of amendment of life, that perfect love to Thee and to all men, which shall fit me to receive Thee. Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof, but trusting in Thy great mercy, I draw near to Thine altar. Lord, come to me, to cleanse me, to heal me, to strengthen me; and grant that when I have received Thee I may never again be separated from Thee by my sins, but may continue Thine for ever, until I see Thee face to face in Thy everlasting kingdom, where Thou livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

At the end of your evening prayers, on the night before your Communion, it is a useful plan to choose some text of Scripture which may form your '*Communion thought*,' and may help you afterwards in resisting temptation. This text should be one suitable to the Church season, and may be taken from the Epistle or Gospel for the day. A few '*Communion thoughts*' are here given, but there are many others equally suitable.

ADVENT:—

- ‘Put ye on the LORD JESUS CHRIST.’
- ‘Then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud.’
- ‘There standeth One among you Whom ye know not.’

CHRISTMAS:—

- ‘The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.
- ‘Thou art no more a servant, but a son.’

EPIPHANY:—

- ‘All nations shall do Him service.’
- ‘Wist ye not I must be about My FATHER’s business?’

SEPTUAGESIMA:—

- ‘So run that ye may obtain.’
- ‘Now abideth faith, hope, and charity.’

LENT:—

- ‘Man does not live by bread alone.’
- ‘Blessed are they which hear the Word of GOD and keep it.’
- ‘Let this mind be in you which was also in CHRIST JESUS.’

PASSION-TIDE:—

- ‘He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death.’

EASTER:—

- ‘Because I live ye shall live also.’
- ‘If ye then be risen with CHRIST, seek those things which are above.’

ROGATION-TIDE :—

‘Ask, and it shall be given you.’

ASCENSION-TIDE :—

‘I go to prepare a place for you.’

‘He ever liveth to make intercession for us.’

WHITSUNTIDE :—

‘The Comforter, which is the HOLY GHOST.’

TRINITY SUNDAY :—

‘Holy, Holy, Holy, LORD GOD Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.’

OTHER SUNDAYS :—

‘No man cometh unto the FATHER but by Me.’

‘The Blood of JESUS CHRIST cleanseth us from all sin.’

‘Without holiness no man shall see the LORD.’

‘The wages of sin is death.’

‘The gift of GOD is eternal life, through JESU CHRIST.’

‘Be it unto me according to Thy Word.’

SAINTS' DAYS :—

‘Be thou faithful unto death.’

‘Count them happy which endure.’

‘Blessed are the pure in heart.’

NEW-YEAR'S DAY :—

‘They that seek Me early shall find Me.’

PART III.

The Order of THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION.

NOTE.—The Communion Service, as used in Church, is printed on the *right-hand page*, beginning on the next page, and ending on page 57.

Private Prayers before the Service begins.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, I, an unworthy sinner, am come into Thy House to seek communion with Thee. I come to receive the most Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of my SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, so that by His dwelling in me I may be lifted up to Thee. Pardon the imperfectness of my preparation ; think not of my sins and frailty, but of the all-perfect merits of JESUS. Grant that this Sacrament may be to my soul's health and not to its condemnation. Guard me from all wandering thoughts and looks, and grant that all we who here seek communion with Thee may be so joined together in CHRIST JESUS, that we may come together to Thy eternal kingdom ; through the same JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

Say also the Hymn, 'O God, unseen yet ever near,' page 78.

Call to mind your 'Communion thought,' and also remember if you have any special request to make to God at this Communion.

If you have time to spare before the service begins, look back to Part II. (page 9) of this book and think over your preparation.

The Order
OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
HOLY COMMUNION.

*The Priest, standing at the Altar, begins with
THE LORD'S PRAYER.*

OUR FATHER, Which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE COLLECT.

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto Whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

The Priest, turning to the people, says

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

GOD spake these words, and said; I am the LORD thy God: Thou shalt have none other gods but Me.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, and visit the sins of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me, and shew mercy unto thousands in them that love Me, and keep My commandments.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not take the Name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh His Name in vain.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath-day. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou hast to do ; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God. In it thou shalt do no manner of work, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day : wherefore the LORD blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Honour thy father and thy mother ; that thy days may be long in the land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt do no murder.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not steal.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

People. LORD, have mercy upon us, and write all these Thy laws in our hearts, we beseech Thee.

Then follows one or other of these prayers for the Queen:

A LMIGHTY GOD, Whose kingdom is everlasting and power infinite: have mercy upon the whole Church: and so rule the heart of Thy chosen servant Victoria, our Queen and Governour, that she, knowing Whose Minister she is, may above all things seek Thy honour and glory; and that we and all her subjects, duly considering Whose authority she hath, may faithfully serve, honour, and humbly obey

A LMIGHTY and Ever-lasting God, we are taught by Thy Holy Word that the hearts of kings are in Thy rule and governance, and that Thou dost dispose and turn them as it seemeth best to Thy godly wisdom; we humbly beseech Thee so to dispose and govern the heart of Victoria, Thy servant, our Queen and Governour, that in all her thoughts, words, and works, she may ever seek Thy

her, in Thee and for Thee, according to Thy blessed Word and ordinance; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD, Who, with Thee and the HOLY GHOST, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

honour and glory, and study to preserve Thy people committed to her charge in wealth, peace, and godliness: Grant this, O merciful FATHER, for Thy dear Son's sake, JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

Then follow the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel. These are different for every Sunday and Holy day. They will be found in Part IV. of this book.

Before the Gospel is read there is sung or said

Glory be to Thee, O LORD.

After the Gospel,

Thanks be to Thee, O GOD.

Then follows

THE NICENE CREED.

I BELIEVE in one GOD the FATHER Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one LORD JESUS CHRIST, the only-begotten SON of GOD, Begotten of His FATHER before all worlds, GOD of GOD, LIGHT of LIGHT, VERY GOD of VERY GOD, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the FATHER: By Whom all things were made: Who for us men, and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the HOLY GHOST of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the FATHER. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the HOLY GHOST, The LORD and Giver of life, Who proceedeth from the FATHER and the SON, Who with the FATHER and the SON together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one Catholick and Apostolick Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. *St. Matth. vii.*

Zacchaeus stood forth, and said unto the Lord, Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have done any wrong to any man, I restore four-fold. *St. Luke, xix.*

Who goeth a warfare at any time of his own cost? Who planteth a vineyard, and cateth not of the fruit thereof? Or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? *1 Cor. ix.*

If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great matter if we shall reap your worldly things? *1 Cor. ix.*

Do ye not know, that they who minister about holy things live of the sacrifice; and they who wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord also ordained that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel. *1 Cor. ix.*

He that soweth little shall reap little; and he that soweth plenteously shall reap plenteously. Let every man do according as he is disposed in his heart, not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver. *2 Cor. ix.*

Let him that is taught in the Word minister unto him that teacheth, in all good things. Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he reap. *Gal. vi.*

While we have time, let us do good unto all men; and specially unto them that are of the household of faith. *Gal. vi.*

Godliness is great riches, if a man be content with that he hath; for we brought nothing into this world, neither may we carry anything out. *1 Tim. vi.*

After the Creed the Offertory is made; the Priest offers the Bread and Wine which are to be used as the outward sign of the spiritual Gift that is to be given to us. He offers also the alms of the people which they are invited to give for the support of the Church or for the relief of God's poor.

While the alms are being collected one or more sentences from Holy Scripture are read.

LET your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your FATHER which is in heaven.
St. Matth. v.

Lay not up for yourselves treasure upon the earth ; where the rust and moth doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal : but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven ; where neither rust nor moth doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal. *St. Matth. vi.*

Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do unto them ; for this is the Law and the Prophets. *St. Matth. vii.*

For other sentences see opposite page.

When the Bread and Wine are being placed upon the Altar say (if there is time) one or both of these prayers:

O GOD, accept these offerings which we present to Thee; we only give Thee that which Thou hast given us. Be pleased, we pray Thee, to receive the memorials of the Death and Passion of Thy dear SON, and grant that through His sacrifice we may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and grace to overcome all evil. Amen.

O LORD JESU, Who didst wash Thy disciples' feet before Thou didst bring them to Thy Holy Table: wash us, we beseech Thee, in Thy most precious Blood, and make us pure from all stain of sin; Who livest and reignest with the FATHER and the HOLY GHOST, one GOD, world without end. Amen.

The Priest then says :

Let us pray for the whole state of CHRIST's Church Militant here in earth.

A LMIGHTY and everliving GOD, Who by Thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks for all men ; We humbly beseech Thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers which we offer to Thy Divine Majesty : beseeching Thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the Spirit of Truth, Unity, and Concord ; And grant that all they that do confess Thy holy Name may agree in the truth of Thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. We beseech Thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governours ; and specially Thy servant Victoria, our Queen ; that under her we may be godly and quietly governed : And grant unto her whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under her, that they may truly and indifferently minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of Thy true religion, and virtue. Give grace, O heavenly FATHER, to all Bishops and Curates, that they may both

THE EXHORTATION.

EARLY beloved in the LORD, ye that mind to come to the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Saviour CHRIST, must consider how Saint Paul exhorted all persons diligently to try and examine themselves, before they presume to eat of that Bread, and drink of that Cup. For as the benefit is great, if with a true penitent heart and lively faith we receive that holy Sacrament; (forthen we spiritually eat the flesh of CHRIST, and drink His blood; then we dwell in CHRIST, and CHRIST in us; we are one with CHRIST, and CHRIST with us;) so is the danger great, if we receive the same unworthily. For then we are guilty of the Body and Blood of CHRIST our Saviour; we eat and drink our own damnation, not considering the Lord's Body; we kindle God's wrath against us; we provoke Him to plague us with divers diseases, and sundry kinds of death. Judge therefore yourselves, brethren, that ye be not judged of the Lord; repent you truly for your sins past; have a lively and stedfast faith in CHRIST our Saviour; amend your lives, and be in perfect charity with all men; so shall ye be meet partakers of those holy mysteries. And above all things ye must give most humble and hearty thanks to God, the FATHER, the Son, and the HOLY GHOST, for the redemption of the world by the death and passion of our Saviour CHRIST, both God and man; Who did humble Himself, even to the death upon the Cross, for us, miserable sinners, who lay in darkness and the shadow of death; that He might make us the children of God, and exalt us to everlasting life. And to the end that we should alway remember the exceeding great love of our Master, and only Saviour, JESUS CHRIST, thus dying for us, and the innumerable benefits which by His precious blood-shedding He hath obtained to us; He hath insti-

by their life and doctrine set forth Thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer Thy holy Sacraments: And to all Thy people give Thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive Thy holy Word; truly serving Thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we most humbly beseech Thee of Thy goodness, O LORD, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. And we also bless Thy holy Name for all Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear; beseeching Thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom: Grant this, O FATHER, for JESUS CHRIST's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

After this there is sometimes read the Exhortation, beginning 'Dearly beloved in the LORD' (see opposite page), but this is very often left out. Then the Priest says,

VE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a

tuted and ordained holy mysteries, as pledges of His love, and for a continual remembrance of His death, to our great and endless comfort. To Him, therefore, with the FATHER and the HOLY GHOST, let us give (as we are most bounden) continual thanks; submitting ourselves wholly to His holy will and pleasure, and studying to serve Him in true holiness and righteousness all the days of our life. *Amen.*

new life, following the commandments of GOD, and walking from henceforth in His holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty GOD, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

All join in the General Confession.

A LMIGHTY GOD, FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against Thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly Thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful FATHER; For Thy SON our LORD JESUS CHRIST's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of Thy Name; Through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

*Then the Priest, turning himself to the people,
pronounces this Absolution :*

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly FATHER, Who of His great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto Him ; Have mercy upon you ; pardon and deliver you from all your sins ; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness ; and bring you to everlasting life ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour CHRIST saith unto all that truly turn to Him.

COME unto Me all that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.
St. Matth. xi. 28.

So God loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *St. John, iii. 16.*

• Hear also what St. Paul saith :

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That CHRIST JESUS came into the world to save sinners. *1 Tim. i. 15.*

PROPER PREFACES.

Upon Christmas Day, and seven days after.

BECAUSE Thou didst give JESUS CHRIST, Thine only Son, to be born, as at this time, for us; Who, by the operation of the HOLY GHOST, was made very man, of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother, and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon Easter Day, and seven days after.

BUT chiefly are we bound to praise Thee for the glorious Resurrection of Thy SON JESUS CHRIST our Lord: for He is the very Paschal Lamb which was offered for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; Who by His death hath destroyed death, and by His rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon Ascension Day, and seven days after.

THROUGH Thy most dearly beloved Son, JESUS CHRIST our Lord; Who, after His most glorious Resurrection, manifestly appeared to all His Apostles, and in their sight ascended up into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where He is, thither we might also ascend, and reign with Him in glory. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon Whit Sunday, and seven days after.

THROUGH JESUS CHRIST our LORD; according to Whose most true promise, the HOLY GHOST came down as at this time from heaven with a sudden great sound, as it had been a mighty wind, in the likeness of fiery tongues, lighting upon the Apostles, to teach them, and to lead them to all truth; giving them both the gift of divers languages, and also boldness with fervent zeal constantly to preach the Gospel unto all nations; whereby we have been brought out of darkness and error into the clear light and true knowledge of Thee, and of Thy SON JESUS CHRIST. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon Trinity Sunday.

WHOM art one God, one LORD; not one only Person, but three Persons in one Substance. For that which we believe of the glory of the FATHER, the same we believe of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST, without any difference or inequality. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Hear also what St. John saith :

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the FATHER, JESUS CHRIST the righteous : and He is the propitiation for our sins.
1 St. John, ii. 1, 2.

After which the Priest says :

Lift up your hearts.

Answer. We lift them up unto the LORD.

Priest. Let us give thanks unto our LORD GOD.

Answer. It is meet and right so to do.

Then the Priest says :

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O LORD, Holy FATHER, Almighty, everlasting God.

On certain great days here follows the proper Preface (for which see opposite page). On ordinary Sundays or week-days the Priest proceeds :

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the Company of Heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name ; evermore praising Thee and saying,

Holy, Holy, Holy, LORD GOD of Hosts, Heaven and Earth are full of Thy glory ; Glory be to Thee, O LORD most High. Amen.

PRIVATE PRAYERS BEFORE THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION.

O ETERNAL and most merciful FATHER, I come to offer Thee my worship. I desire to adore, praise, and glorify Thee, and to give Thee thanks for Thy great glory. I confess my unworthiness and my sins, for which I am heartily sorry and humbly ask Thy Pardon. I cannot draw near to Thee except by joining myself to Thy dear SON in the sacrifice which He offered for me upon the Cross; through Him I pray thee to accept me and to bless me now and evermore. Amen.

A LMIGHTY GOD, Who hast promised to hear the prayers of them that ask in Thy SON's name: I beseech Thee mercifully to listen to my request; especially —— [*here think whether there is any particular prayer which you wish to make to GOD at this Communion*]. Grant this, I beseech Thee, O LORD, for the sake of JESUS CHRIST, Thy SON, our SAVIOUR. Amen.

The Consecration Prayer is the most solemn part of the whole service. The Priest repeats the very same words and actions which JESUS CHRIST used at the Last Supper. Remember that you are joining with him in pleading before GOD the sacrifice of His dear SON, through which alone you can approach the FATHER.

Then the Priest says this Prayer :

WE do not presume to come to this Thy Table, O merciful LORD, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Thy Table. But Thou art the same LORD, Whose property is always to have mercy : Grant us therefore, gracious LORD, so to eat the Flesh of Thy dear SON JESUS CHRIST, and to drink His Blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by His Body, and our souls washed through His most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.

*Here will follow a short time for silent prayer.
For prayers that may be used privately see
opposite page. Then will be said*

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Heavenly FATHER, Who of Thy tender mercy didst give Thine only SON JESUS CHRIST to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption ; Who made there (by His one oblation of Himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the

PRIVATE PRAYERS.

O LAMB of GOD, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O LAMB of GOD, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

JESU, my LORD, my God, my all,
 Hear me, blest SAVIOUR, when I call ;
 Hear me, and from Thy dwelling-place
 Pour down the riches of Thy grace :
 JESU, my LORD, I Thee adore,
 O make me love Thee more and more.

JESU, grant me this, I pray,
 Ever in Thy heart to stay :
 Let me evermore abide
 Hidden in Thy wounded side.

If the evil one prepare,
 Or the world, a tempting snare,
 I am safe when I abide
 In Thy Heart and wounded side.

If the flesh, more dangerous still,
 Tempt my soul to deeds of ill,
 Naught I fear when I abide
 In Thy Heart and wounded side.

Death will come one day to me ;
 JESU, cast me not from Thee :
 Dying, let me still abide
 In Thy Heart and wounded side.

sins of the whole world ; and did institute, and in His holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that His precious death, until His coming again ; Hear us, O merciful FATHER, we most humbly beseech Thee ; and grant that we receiving these Thy creatures of bread and wine, according to Thy SON our SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST's holy institution, in remembrance of His death and passion, may be partakers of His most blessed Body and Blood : Who in the same night that He was betrayed took Bread ; and when He had given thanks He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is My Body which is given for you ; do this in remembrance of Me. Likewise after supper He took the Cup ; and when He had given thanks He gave it to them saying, Drink ye all of this ; for this is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins : Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of Me. Amen.

After this Prayer of Consecration worship in silence your SAVIOUR Who feeds your Soul with the spiritual food of His Body and Blood. Private prayers will be found on the opposite page.

Pray also in your own words. Think what you would say to JESUS, if you could look up and see Him standing before you, offering to lead you up to your FATHER in heaven. What sins should you tell Him about? What help should you ask from Him? What blessings should you pray for, for yourself or others?

If you wish for more prayers to say, you will find them on pages 61 to 71.

When it is time for you to go up to the altar, go quietly and reverently, and kneel down at the rail. The Priest will first bring to you the Bread, and will speak to you of the Body of CHRIST that was given for you. It is best to take it in your open hand, so that none of it may be lost. There will then be brought to you the Cup, which you should take firmly into your hands and drink of it. Let your mind be upon the perfect sacrifice of JESUS CHRIST, and remember that this act of Communion so makes you one with Him that you are accepted by your heavenly FATHER through His merits Who died and Who lives for you.

Then return to your place, kneel down, and say the Prayers and Thanksgivings on p. 54.

OUR FATHER, Which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; But deliver us from evil : For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Then is said one or other of these prayers:

OLORD and heavenly FATHER, we, Thy humble servants, entirely desire Thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving ; most humbly beseeching Thee to grant, that by the merits and death of Thy SON JESUS CHRIST, and through faith in His blood, we, and all Thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of His passion. And here we offer and present unto Thee, O LORD, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reason-

ALMIGHTY and Ever-living God, we most heartily thank Thee for that Thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of Thy SON our SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST ; and dost assure us thereby of Thy favour and goodness towards us ; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of Thy SON, which is the blessed company of all faithful people ; and are also heirs through hope of Thy everlasting king.

PRAISE the LORD, O my soul, and all that is
within me praise His holy name.

Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His
benefits;

Who forgiveth all thy sin, and healeth all thine
infirmities;

Who saveth thy life from destruction, and crowneth
thee with mercy and loving kindness.

GLORY be to Thee, O JESU, my LORD and my
God, for feeding me with the spiritual food of
Thy Body and Blood. May this Communion with
Thee give new life to my soul, and to the souls of all
who receive Thee. Increase our faith, deepen our
repentance, fill us with Thy love, that we may ever
serve Thee and ever praise Thee, here and hereafter.
Amen.

While the other people are communicating, spend the time, as well as you are able, in praying for them and for others (see page 66), or in reading the texts and hymns on pages 60 and 71.

Remain on your knees all the time, if possible.

When all have received Holy Communion, the Service will begin again with the LORD's Prayer on page 53.

All join in the LORD's Prayer.

able, holy, and lively sacrifice unto Thee; humbly beseeching Thee, that all we who are partakers of this holy Communion, may be fulfilled with Thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto Thee any sacrifice ; yet we beseech Thee to accept this our bounden duty and service ; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD ; by Whom, and with Whom, in the unity of the HOLY GHOST, all honour and glory be unto Thee, O FATHER Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

dom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of Thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech Thee, O heavenly FATHER, so to assist us with Thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as Thou hast prepared for us to walk in ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD, to Whom, with Thee and the HOLY GHOST, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

All join in saying,

GLORY be to GOD on High, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O LORD GOD, heavenly KING, GOD the FATHER Almighty.

O LORD, the only-begotten SON JESU CHRIST ;
O LORD GOD, LAMB of GOD, SON of the FATHER,
that takest away the sins of the world, have
mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the
sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou
that takest away the sins of the world, receive
our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right
hand of GOD the FATHER, have mercy upon
us.

For Thou only art holy ; Thou only art
the LORD ; thou only, O CHRIST, with the
HOLY GHOST, art most high in the glory of
GOD the FATHER. Amen.

Then the Priest gives this Blessing :

THE peace of GOD, which passeth all under-
standing, keep your hearts and minds in
the knowledge and love of GOD, and of His
SON JESUS CHRIST our LORD : and the blessing
of GOD Almighty, the FATHER, the SON, and
the HOLY GHOST, be amongst you and remain
with you always. *Amen.*

HERE THE SERVICE ENDS.

*Before you leave the Church remember to return
thanks for the Blessing you have received.
You will find a form of thanksgiving on the
next page.*

*Thanksgiving to be said privately before leaving
the Church.*

I THANK Thee, O LORD, that Thou hast permitted me to join in this holy service, and hast fed me with the Body and Blood of Thy dear SON. I offer to Thee love and gratitude for this blessing which Thou hast bestowed upon me. Grant that I may never receive Thy grace in vain, but may learn to serve Thee better day by day, until I come to Thy eternal service in heaven. Grant this, O FATHER, for JESUS CHRIST's sake. Amen.

O ALMIGHTY and Everlasting GOD, I thank Thee because Thou hast reconciled me to Thyself through the Perfect Sacrifice of JESUS CHRIST, and hast bidden me draw near to Thee in His Name. Grant that this Communion with Thee may be unto me an armour of faith and a shield of good resolution. Let it increase in me all goodness, and drive far from me all evil. Let it draw me nearer to Thee, and make me hate all that displeases Thee, so that I may be less unworthy Thee; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

Call to mind your 'Communion thought,' and take it away with you as a weapon against temptation.

there is time say also this Hymn :

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION.

JESU, gentlest Saviour,
 Thou art in us now,
 Fill us with Thy Goodness,
 Till our hearts o'erflow.

Multiply our graces,
 Chiefly love and fear,
 And, dear LORD, the chiefest,
 Grace to persevere.

Oh, how can we thank Thee
 For a Gift like this ?
 Gift that truly maketh
 Heaven's eternal bliss !

Ah ! when wilt Thou always
 Make our hearts Thy home ?
 We must wait for heaven ;
 Then the day will come. Amen.

Before you get up to leave the Church say,
 I will go forth in the strength of my LORD GOD.

*Say these Thanksgivings also with your evening private
 prayers, and on the two next evenings.*

VERSES OF HOLY SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION.

I AM the Vine, ye are the branches ; he that abideth in Me, and I him, the same bringeth forth much fruit : for without Me ye can do nothing.' *St. John, xv. 5.*

'I will wash my hands in innocency, O LORD, and so will I go to Thine altar.' *Psalm xxvi. 6.*

'The Lord is my Shepherd, therefore can I lack nothing.' *Psalm xxiii. 1.*

'He that eateth My Flesh and drinketh My Blood dwelleth in Me and I in him.' *St. John, vi. 56.*

'I am the Bread of Life, he that cometh to Me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst.' *St. John, vi. 35.*

'If a man love Me he will keep My words, and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him.' *St. John, xiv. 23.*

'But This Man, because He continueth ever, hath an unchangeable Priesthood ; wherefore He is also able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.' *Heb. viii. 24, 25.*

‘Behold what manner of love the FATHER hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of GOD.’ *1 St. John*, iii. 1.

‘He that hath the SON hath life ; and he that hath not the SON of GOD hath not life.’ *1 St. John*, v. 12.

‘As often as ye eat this Bread, and drink this Cup, ye do show the LORD’s death till He come.’ *1 Cor. xi. 26.*

PRAYERS FOR VICTORY OVER SIN.

I.—AGAINST PRIDE.

O ALMIGHTY FATHER, Who didst send Thine only SON JESUS CHRIST to empty Himself of His glory, and take upon Him the form of a servant ; Root out of my heart all feelings of pride, that, owning myself a miserable sinner, I may be humble and lowly, and glory in nothing save in Thee. Grant this for JESU’s sake. Amen.

II.—AGAINST COVETOUSNESS AND DISCONTENT.

O GOD, Whose only-begotten SON, though rich yet for our sakes became poor ; Grant that I may be free from all over-eagerness after this world’s goods : teach me not to care for earthly things, but to love things heavenly ; keep me from all vain expenses, and make me contented with the lot which Thou hast appointed for me. Hear my prayer for Thy dear SON’s sake. Amen.

III.—AGAINST IMPURITY.

O ALMIGHTY God, perfect in holiness, W_L hast taught us that the pure in heart alone can see Thee; Look upon my infirmity; make me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me; help me to drive away all evil thoughts, and to conquer every evil desire. L_RORD, save ne, or I perish, for JESU's sake. Amen.

IV.—AGAINST ENVY.

O GOD, Who hast taught us that all the commandments consist in love towards Thee and towards man; Teach me to love Thee, and all men for Thy sake, especially [*here name any one against whom you have a feeling of envy or dislike*]. Give me the grace of charity, and root out all envy, harshness, and bitterness from my heart, so that by rejoicing in the happiness and success of others, and by sympathising in their sorrows, I may ever follow Thee, Who art perfect and true Love; through JESUS CHRIST our L_RORD. Amen.

V.—AGAINST ANGER.

O ALMIGHTY God, Whose Blessed Son was manifested to set us the example of a perfect life, Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again, and on the Cross did pray for His murderers; Give me patience and gentleness,

that I may restrain my anger, impatience, and resentment, and that I may overcome evil with good : for His sake, JESUS CHRIST, Thy Son our LORD. Amen.

VI.—AGAINST IDLENESS AND SLOTH.

O ETERNAL FATHER, Who art from everlasting to everlasting, put away from me, I pray Thee, all sloth and laziness both of body and mind ; strengthen my weakness, that whatsoever I have to do, I may do it with all my might, and thus striving to please Thee, I may at length come to Thee, and rest with Thee in heaven. Grant this for JESUS CHRIST's sake. Amen.

VII.—AGAINST UNTRUTHFULNESS.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Who art the very Truth itself, take from me all lying and deceitfulness ; give me courage ever to speak the truth in all difficulties, keep me from all boasting and exaggeration, that so confessing Thee before men I may be acknowledged by Thee at the last day ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

VIII.—AGAINST DISOBEDIENCE.

O GOD, Whose blessed SON became, for our sake, obedient to His earthly parents, although Himself their God ; Give me grace to curb my rebellious spirit, and help me ever to

be obedient to those whom Thou hast set over me ; so that by obeying them I may also obey Thee, and so learn to have no will but Thine. Grant this, O Heavenly FATHER, for JESUS CHRIST's sake, our LORD. Amen.

IX.—AGAINST THE BESETTING SIN.

O ETERNAL God and FATHER, Thou Who didst make me knowest how weak I am ; Thou knowest, Good LORD, that I am tempted to commit the sin of ——*. But, O LORD, I would for love of Thee keep this day free from all ——*, and be very ——†. I will not, by Thy grace, do one ——* act, or speak one ——* word, or give one ——* look, or harbour one ——* thought in my soul. If Thou allowest any of these temptations to come upon me, I desire to think and do only what Thou willest. LORD, without Thee I can do nothing, with Thee I can do all things. Help me by Thy grace that I fall not ; or, if I fall, bring me back quickly to Thee, and teach me to love Thee better for Thy tender mercies' sake. For JESU's sake hear me, I beseech Thee. Amen.

* Here add what your chief or besetting sin is.

† Here say what good quality you chiefly wish for. For instance, if your chief fault is impatience, you must here pray for patience ; if it is pride, pray for humility : and so on.

X.—PRAYER FOR PERSEVERANCE.

O GOD, Who hast willed that the gate of mercy should stand open to the faithful; Look on me and have mercy upon me, and grant that as Thou hast, of Thy great mercy, brought me into the path of Thy will, so I may ever persevere in it, and never turn aside from the way that leadeth to everlasting life; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

XI.—ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF CONFIRMATION.

I THANK Thee, O my God, for Thy goodness to me, and especially for Thy gifts in Confirmation. Help me, I beseech Thee, to bring forth in my life those fruits of the Spirit which belong to Thy true children. Make me true, loving, pure, humble, and forbearing in all my thoughts and words, and grant that I may serve Thee faithfully unto my life's end; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR VARIOUS PERSONS AND OBJECTS.

I.—FOR THE CHURCH.

O GRACIOUS FATHER, we humbly beseech Thee for Thy Holy Catholic Church, and especially for that Branch of it to which we belong, that Thou wouldest be pleased to fill it with all truth, in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it ; where it is in error, direct it ; where in anything it is amiss, reform it ; where it is right, strengthen and confirm it ; where it is in want, furnish it ; where it is divided and rent asunder, make up the breaches of it, O Thou Holy One of Israel. Amen.

II.—FOR ALL ESTATES OF MEN IN THE CHURCH.

A LMIGHTY and Everlasting God, by Whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before Thee for all estates of men in Thy Holy Church, that every member of the same in his vocation and ministry may truly and godly serve Thee ; through our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST. Amen.

III.—FOR THE PARISH.

A LMIGHTY and Everlasting GOD, Who dost govern all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear our prayers, and grant to this Parish all things needful for its spiritual welfare. Bless the labour of all who work for Thee ; strengthen and confirm the faithful; visit and relieve the sick ; turn and soften the wicked ; arouse the careless ; recover the fallen ; restore the penitent ; train the young in Thy faith and fear ; remove all hindrances to the advancement of Thy Truth ; and bring all to be of one heart and mind within the fold of Thy Holy Church ; to the honour and glory of Thy Name, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

IV.—FOR MISSIONS.

O GOD, Who art rich in mercy unto all, O FATHER of glory, Who hast made Thy Son to be a light among the nations, to preach redemption to the captives, sight to the blind ; remember all Bishops and Curates, together with all others whom Thou hast called to labour among the heathen and unconverted at home and abroad ; and grant that by them Thy Holy Name may be for ever glorified, and Thy blessed Kingdom enlarged ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

V.—FOR THE CONVERSION OF SINNERS.

O ALMIGHTY God, we beseech Thee to hear our prayers for all who sin against Thee, or neglect to serve Thee, that Thou wouldest grant to them true repentance, and an earnest longing for Thy service; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

VI.—FOR UNITY AMONG CHRISTIANS.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, Who saidst unto Thine Apostles, ‘Peace I leave unto you, My peace I give unto you;’ Think not of our sins but of the faith of Thy Church, and grant unto her that peace and unity which is agreeable to Thy will, Who livest and reignest with the FATHER and the HOLY GHOST, One God, world without end. Amen.

VII.—FOR THE PARISH PRIEST.

O GOD, the Pastor and Guide of all Thy people, look favourably on Thy servant whom Thou hast called to the office of Pastor of this church and parish. Grant that both by word and example he may profit those over whom he is set, that together with his flock he may attain eternal life; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

VIII.—FOR MEMBERS OF A GUILD.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Who art everywhere present, let Thy loving mercy come down upon us the members of the Guild of —. Send Thy Holy Angels to guard our bodies, Thy HOLY SPIRIT to guide our souls; keep us without sin until the coming of the LORD JESUS; and grant that we may all live together with Thee, in Thy everlasting kingdom; for JESUS CHRIST's sake. Amen.

IX.—TO BE SAID BY THOSE WHO ARE MARRIED.

O GOD, Who hast joined me in Holy Marriage with my wife [or *husband*], give us grace to love one another with a holy love, as CHRIST loves His spouse the Church. May we live in love and peace together, as being heirs together of eternal life; and may we hereafter be amongst those blessed ones who shall inherit Thy eternal kingdom; for the sake of the same JESUS CHRIST our SAVIOUR. Amen.

X.—TO BE SAID BY THOSE WHO HAVE CHILDREN.

BLESS, O LORD, our dear children whom we have dedicated to Thee in Holy Baptism. We earnestly pray Thee that Thy grace may

ever abide and increase within them. Give us heavenly wisdom that we may learn to train them in Thy faith and fear. Guard them from all dangers both of body and soul, and grant that they may ever remain in the number of Thy faithful and elect children ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

XI.—FOR FATHER AND MOTHER.

O GOD, Who hast commanded us to honour our parents, look with Thy heavenly mercy upon my father and my mother. Reward them with Thine eternal good things for all the care, trouble, and grief they have borne on my account. Forgive me for all injuries which I have done them ; give them here all things needful for soul and body, and hereafter join me with them in Thy heavenly kingdom ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

XII.—FOR A GODCHILD.

BLESS, O LORD, my Godchild —. Grant that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*, so that *he* may have victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil, and may be everlastinglly rewarded ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen.

XIII.—FOR THOSE WHO TROUBLE US.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, Who didst pray for those who crucified Thee, forgive, I pray Thee, all who have vexed me, or seemed unkind to me ; and all, if any, who have done me any wrong. Teach me also to forgive them from my heart, as I hope to be forgiven by Thee ; for Thy tender mercies' sake. Amen.

HYMNS.

I.

MY God, and is Thy Table spread,
And doth Thy Cup with love o'erflow ?
Thither be all Thy children led,
And let them all Thy sweetness know.

Hail, sacred Feast, which JESUS makes,
Rich banquet of His Flesh and Blood !
Thrice happy he who here partakes
That sacred Stream, that heavenly Food.

Why are its dainties all in vain
Before unwilling hearts displayed ?
Was not for them the Victim slain ?
Are they forbid the children's Bread ?

O let Thy Table honoured be,
 And furnished well with joyful guests ;
 And may each soul salvation see,
 That here its sacred pledges tastes.

To FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST,
 The GOD whom heaven and earth adore,
 From men and from the Angel-host
 Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

II.

BREAD of heaven, on Thee we feed,
 For Thy Flesh is meat indeed :
 Ever may our souls be fed
 With this true and living Bread ;
 Day by day with strength supplied
 Through the life of Him Who died.

Vine of heaven, Thy Blood supplies
 This blest Cup of Sacrifice ;
 LORD, Thy Wounds our healing give,
 To Thy Cross we look and live :
 JESUS, may we ever be
 Grafted, rooted, built in Thee.

III.

JUST as I am, without one plea,
 But that Thy blood was shed for me,
 And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
 O LAMB of GOD, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about,
 With many a conflict, many a doubt,
 Fightings and fears within, without,
 O LAMB of GOD, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind ;
 Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
 Yea all I need, in Thee to find,
 O LAMB of GOD, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
 Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve ;
 Because Thy promise I believe,
 O LAMB of GOD, I come.

Just as I am (Thy love unknown
 Has broken every barrier down),
 Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
 O LAMB of GOD, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
 The breadth, length, depth, and height to
 prove,
 Here for a season, then above,
 O LAMB of GOD, I come.

IV.

AND now, O FATHER, mindful of the love
 That bought us, once for all, on Calvary's
 Tree,

And having with us Him that pleads above,
 We here present, we here spread forth to Thee
 That only Offering perfect in Thine eyes,
 The one true, pure, immortal Sacrifice.

Look, FATHER, look on His anointed Face,
 And only look on us as found in Him ;
 Look not on our misusings of Thy grace,
 Our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim :
 For lo ! between our sins and their reward
 We set the Passion of Thy Son our LORD.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,
 By this prevailing Presence we appeal ;
 O fold them closer to Thy mercy's breast,
 O do Thine utmost for their souls' true weal ;
 From tainting mischief keep them white and clear,
 And crown Thy gifts with strength to persevere.

And so we come ; O draw us to Thy feet,
 Most patient Saviour, Who canst love us still ;
 And by this Food, so awful and so sweet, .
 Deliver us from every touch of ill :
 In Thine own service make us glad and free,
 And grant us never more to part with Thee.

Amen.

V.

I AM not worthy, Holy LORD,
 That Thou shouldst come to me ;
 Speak but the Word—one gracious Word
 Can set the sinner free.

I am not worthy ; cold and bare
 The lodging of my soul :
 How canst Thou deign to enter there ?
 LORD, speak, and make me whole.

I am not worthy ; yet, my GOD,
 How can I say Thee nay ?
 Thee, Who didst give Thy Flesh and Blood
 My ransom-price to pay.

O come ! in this sweet morning hour
 Feed me with Food Divine ;
 And fill with all Thy love and power
 This worthless heart of mine. Amen

VI.

SWEET the moments, rich in blessing,
 Which before the Cross I spend,
 Life, and health, and peace possessing,
 From the sinner's dying Friend.

Here I rest, for ever viewing
 Mercy poured in streams of Blood ;
 Precious drops, my soul bedewing,
 Plead and claim my peace with God.

Truly blessed is the station,
 Low before His Cross to lie,
 Whilst I see Divine compassion
 Beaming in His languid Eye.

LORD, in ceaseless contemplation
 Fix my thankful heart on Thee,
 Till I taste Thy full salvation,
 And Thine unveiled glory see. Amen.

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VII.

ROCK of Ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in Thee ;
 Let the Water and the Blood,
 From Thy riven side which flowed,
 Be of sin the double cure,
 Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labours of my hands
 Can fulfil Thy law's demands ;
 Could my zeal no respite know,
 Could my tears for ever flow,
 All for sin could not atone ;
 Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
 Simply to Thy Cross I cling ;
 Naked, come to Thee for dress ;
 Helpless, look to Thee for grace ;
 Foul, I to the Fountain fly ;
 Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
 When my eyelids close in death,
 When I soar through tracts unknown,
 See Thee on Thy Judgment-throne ;
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in Thee. Amen.

VIII.

JESU, meek and lowly,
 Saviour, pure and holy,
 On Thy love relying
 Hear me humbly crying.

Prince of life and power,
 My salvation's tower,
 On the Cross I view Thee,
 Calling sinners to Thee.

There behold me gazing
 At the sight amazing ;
 Bending low before Thee,
 Helpless I adore Thee.

By Thy red Wounds streaming,
 With Thy Life-blood gleaming,
 Blood for sinners flowing,
 Pardon free bestowing ;

By that Fount of blessing,
 Thy dear love expressing,
 All my aching sadness
 Turn Thou into gladness.

LORD, in mercy guide me,
 Be Thou e'er beside me ;
 In Thy ways direct me,
 'Neath Thy wings protect me. Amen.

IX.

O GOD, unseen yet ever near,
 Thy Presence may we feel ;
 And, thus inspired with holy fear,
 Before Thine Altar kneel.

We come, obedient to Thy Word,
 To feast on heavenly Food ;
 Our meat the Body of the LORD,
 Our drink His precious Blood.

Thus may we all Thy Word obey,
 For we, O God, are Thine ;
 And go rejoicing on our way,
 Renewed with strength Divine. Amen.

APPENDIX I.

PRAYERS FOR DAILY USE.

MORNING PRAYERS.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

I believe in God, &c.

Our Father, &c.

O most gracious God and merciful Father, I give thanks and praise to Thee, Who during the past night hast kept and protected me, Thy unworthy servant, and hast brought me in health and safety to the beginning of this day. I beseech Thee, of Thy mercy, to grant that I may so pass this day in Thy service that I may perform my bounden duty to Thee, and always live in Thy favour: and I commend my body and soul unto Thee all the days of my life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Now look forward into the day to see what duties you will have to perform, and what temptations you are likely to meet with, and then say the following prayer :—

O good Jesus, my Saviour and my God, I pray Thee to watch over me this day, and to keep me from all dangers of soul and body. Give me grace to keep watch over all my thoughts, words, and deeds, that I may not offend Thee in any matter; keep me especially from the sins of and preserve me from everything that

may tempt me to commit them. Be with me, O Lord, this day in all my doings; in my prayers, my work, my duties, my pleasures; and grant that I may do all for Thy glory. Amen.

Bless, O Lord, all for whom I ought to pray, especially . . . ; give them all things needful for their souls and bodies, and make them wholly Thine; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If there is any sin against which you have especially to fight, you may here add a prayer for victory over it. (See pages 61 to 64.)

The Lord bless my going out and my coming in from this time forth for evermore. Amen.

MID-DAY PRAYERS.

For those who have time then to pray,—

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who for our sakes didst bear our sins in Thine own Body on the Cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness, have mercy upon me, and grant me a godly and peaceful life in this present world, and, through Thy grace, eternal glory in the world to come; where with the Father and the Holy Ghost Thou livest and reignest ever one God, world without end. Amen.

O Saviour of the world, Who by Thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord.

EVENING PRAYERS.

**In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Our Father, &c.

Almighty and Everlasting God, I offer Thee most humble and hearty thanks for having by Thy great mercy and goodness kept me this day from harm. I beseech Thee to preserve and keep me this night from all dangers of soul and body, that I may rise again in health to praise Thy glorious Name, and joyfully to serve Thee for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, may Thy Holy Spirit teach me to know myself as Thou knowest me.

Then ask yourself these questions :—

Does conscience accuse me of committing any particular act of sin to-day? Have I given way to my besetting sin? If so, what led me to fall? Did I fall wilfully, or without deliberation? Have I tried to make any amends? Am I really sorry for it? Or have I done any other wrong actions,—laziness in rising, or in work, neglected prayers, been spiteful, disobedient, unkind, quarrelsome, rude, greedy, impure, dishonest, selfish, neglected my religious duties, led others into sin? Or have

I sinned in word by speaking untruths, boasting, using bad language, being uncharitable, proud, angry, immodest, irreverent? Or in thought by vanity, selfishness, envy, wandering in prayer, revengeful feelings, unbelief, impurity, despair, discontent?

When you have found out how you have sinned against God, say,—

O my God, I confess to Thee that I have sinned against Thee by these sins [here say what sins you have committed].

Blot out and forgive, O my God, these sins which I have committed both willingly and unwillingly, and all other sins which I cannot now remember. Deal with me according to Thy great mercy, O Lord, and not after my many trespasses, for Thou art the lover of my soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, Who grantest the prayers of Thy servants one for another, remember all those who pray for me and for whom I ought to pray, especially . . . [here name your father, mother, husband, wife, brothers, sisters, &c., and all for whom you ought to pray]; bless them in their bodies and bless them in their souls; keep them without sin until the coming of the Lord Jesus, and make both them and me to dwell with Thee for ever, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Here you may add other prayers of your own ; or you may say one or more of the prayers on pages 66 to 71.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

Before you get into bed say : I will lay me down in peace and take my rest, for it is Thou, Lord, only that makest me to dwell in safety.

PRAYER BEFORE CHURCH SERVICE.

O Lord, I am now in Thy House; give me, I pray Thee, a heart to worship Thee. Guard me from all wandering thoughts and heedless actions, and make my service acceptable unto Thee ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS AFTER CHURCH SERVICE.

Forgive, for Christ's sake, O merciful Father, the imperfection of this service ; and grant that our prayers may, by the ministry of Thy Holy Angels, be brought up into Thy Holy Tabernacle in heaven, there to be offered before Thy Divine Majesty, sprinkled with the Blood of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grant, O Lord, that what I have said with my lips and heard with my ears I may believe in my heart ; and what I believe in my heart I may show forth in my life, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

If you get to church some time before the service begins, try and spend the time in prayer or Bible-reading.

RULES FOR DAILY LIFE.

1. Ever remember that it is through the Life, Death, and Resurrection of JESUS CHRIST (whose members we are by our Baptism), that we are reunited to GOD, and call Him ‘Our FATHER.’
2. Pray daily to the FATHER through JESUS our Mediator.
3. Be watchful over yourself, especially with regard to the temptations which most commonly beset you.
4. Be diligent in the ordinary duties of life ; be truthful, modest, and reverent in your language.
5. Receive Holy Communion with regularity.
6. Prepare yourself for each Communion. *See page 13.*
7. Return thanks after Communion. *See page 58.*
8. Read daily some portion of God’s Holy Word, as His message to you.
9. Keep the Lord’s Day holy ; and observe the seasons of the Church.
10. Remember that you were created for GOD ; do not fall short of this great aim of your life.

APPENDIX II.

THE COMMUNION OF THE SICK.

WHEN you are in any dangerous illness, or when through long infirmity you are unable to get to the church, it is right that you should ask the clergyman of the parish to administer to you the Holy Communion in your own home. As far as possible you should prepare for this Communion as you would for any other (*see page 13*) ; but as it is very possible that your illness will prevent your doing this, you must content yourself with trying to feel,—

1. Earnest faith in JESUS CHRIST, Who died for you, that your sins might be forgiven and you might be reconciled to God.
2. True sorrow for the sins which grieve Him, with a real purpose of amendment of life.

The hymn, ‘Abide with me,’ is a very good one to read before receiving Holy Communion on a sick-bed.

The Service begins thus :—

THE COLLECT.

A LMIGHTY, everliving GOD, Maker of mankind, Who dost correct those whom Thou dost love, and chastise every one whom Thou

dost receive ; We beseech Thee to have mercy upon this Thy servant visited with Thine hand, and to grant that *he* may take *his* sickness patiently, and recover *his* bodily health (if it be Thy gracious will) ; and whensover *his* soul shall depart from the body, it may be without spot presented unto Thee ; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

THE EPISTLE. Heb. xii. 5.

MY son, despise not thou the chastening of the LORD, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him. For whom the LORD loveth He chasteneth ; and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth.

THE GOSPEL. St. John, v. 24.

Before the Gospel say : Glory be to Thee, O LORD.

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation ; but is passed from death unto life.

After the Gospel say : Thanks be to Thee, O God.

Then turn to the bottom of page 41 of this book, 'Ye that do truly and earnestly repent,' and the service will then proceed as usual. Follow the right-hand pages for the service.



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